

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGRE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6783

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS PEKING 2363

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CH

SUBJ: RICE HARVEST AND WEATHER

1. USLO REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING CANTON FAIR REPORTS THAT RICE IN CANTON AREA WAS RIPENING RAPIDLY WHEN OBSERVED ON NOVEMBER 4 - A FEW FIELDS ALREADY BEING HARVESTED. COMMUNE PERSONNEL ESTIMATE YIELDS ABOVE LAST YEAR'S LEVEL.

2. ON NOVEMBER 5 OBSERVATIONS WERE MADE FROM TRAIN EN ROUTE CAHY I TO PEKING. BETWEEN CHANGSHA AND YUEH-YANG IN HUNAN PROVINCE, RICE RIPE OR NEARING MATURITY. HARVEST WAS IN FULL SWING DESPITE RAIN AND WET FIELDS. ESTIMATED THAT 8 TO 10 PERCENT OF RICE AREA ALREADY HARVESTED.

3. BETWEEN YUEHYANG AND YUHAN, MANY FIELDS BEING HARVESTED. HARVEST CONDITIONS MORE FAVORABLE THAN FURTHER SOUTH. ABOUT 20 TO 25 PERCENT OF RICE IN AREA ALREADY CUT, BUT MUCH LESS HAD BEEN THRESHED. WHEAT BEING PLANTED FOLLOWING HARVEST OF RICE AND COTTON.

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4. FROM WUHAN TO THE HONAN QJOVINCE BORDER, RICE WAS 30 TO 40

PERCENT HARVESTED. COTTON HARVEST COMPLETE. MOST LAND FROM WHICH COTTON AND RICE HARVESTED WAS PLANTED TO WHEAT. RICE HARVEST COMPLETE IN HIGHLANDS.

5. IN VALLEY OF THE HUAI RIVER IN SOUTHERN HONAN PROVINCE, RICE HARVEST MORE THAN 50 PERCENT COMPLETE - COTTON HARVEST COMPLETE. HARVESTED LAND PLANTED TO WHEAT.

6. OBSERVATIONS FROM TRAIN SUPPORT CHINESE ESTIMATE THAT LATE RICE CROP WILL BE AS GOOD OR BETTER THAN LAST YEAR.

7. USLO STAFF MEMBERS VACATIONING IN KUEILIN, KWANGSI REPORT THAT VISIT TO HYDROELECTRIC PLANT WAS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE WATER IN THE RESERVOIR, AND BOAT TRIP ON LI CHIANG TOOK MUCH LONGER TIME THAN USUAL BECAUSE OF LOW WATER. GATES

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